

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information storage medium comprising:

~~a rewritable area;~~

~~the rewritable area comprising:~~

a user area to store user data; and

~~a defect management area sets, each defect management area set including first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas to store defect management information,~~

~~wherein upon detection of a defect in a current defect management area set included in the defect management area sets, the current defect management area set is replaced to the next defect management area set of the current defect management area set, the second defect management area is the next defect management area of the first defect management area, and the fourth defect management area is the next defect management area of the third defect management area. to store defect management information used to manage defective areas on the rewritable area,~~

~~the defect management area comprising:~~

~~first and second defect management reserved areas,~~

~~the first defect management reserved area being used to store the defect management information in an initial state, and~~

~~the second defect management reserved area being used to store the defect management information which is transited at a predetermined timing.~~

Claims 2-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An information reproduction apparatus for reproducing information from ~~[[an]]~~ the information storage medium according to claim 1, which comprises a rewritable area, comprising:

~~an acquisition~~ a reading unit configured to ~~acquire~~ read latest defect management information used to ~~manage defective areas on the rewritable areas~~ from ~~one of a plurality of~~ defect management reserved areas contained in a defect management area on the rewritable area the current defect management area set ; and

a reproduction unit configured to reproduce user data from ~~[[a]]~~ the user area ~~on the~~ rewritable area on the basis of the latest defect management information.

Claims 8-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information reproduction method for reproducing information from an information storage medium including a user area to store user data; and defect management area sets, each defect management area set including first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas to store defect management information, wherein upon detection of a defect in a current defect management area set included in the defect management area sets, the current defect management area set is replaced to the next defect management area set of the current defect management area set, the second defect management area is the next defect management area of the first defect management area, and the fourth defect management area is the next defect management area of the third defect management area, said method comprising:

acquiring reading latest defect management information ~~used to manage defective areas on the rewritable areas~~ from ~~one of a plurality of defect management reserved areas contained in a defect management area on the rewritable area~~ the current defect management area set; and

reproducing user data from ~~[[a]]~~ the user area ~~on the rewritable area~~ on the basis of the latest defect management information.

Claims 13-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An information recording method for recording information on an information storage medium including a user area to store user data; and defect management area sets, each defect management area set including first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas to store defect management information, wherein upon detection of a defect in a current defect management area set included in the defect management area sets, the current defect management area set is replaced to the next defect management area set of the current defect management area set, the second defect management area is the next defect management area of the first defect management area, and the fourth defect management area is the next defect management area of the third defect management area, which comprises a rewritable area, the rewritable area comprising a defect management area to store defect management information used to manage defective areas on the rewritable area, and the defect management area comprising first and second defect management reserved areas, the method comprising:

recording the defect management information on the first, second, third, and fourth defect management reserved areas contained in the current defect management area set in an initial state, and

transiting the defect management information to the second defect management reserved area at a predetermined timing.

recording the defect management information of the first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas contained in the current defect management area set

on the first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas contained in the next defect management area set upon the detection of the defect in the current defect management area set.

Claims 18-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (New): An information recording apparatus for recording information on the information storage medium including a user area to store user data; and defect management area sets, each defect management area set including first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas to store defect management information, wherein upon detection of a defect in a current defect management area set included in the defect management area sets, the current defect management area set is replaced to the next defect management area set of the current defect management area set, the second defect management area is the next defect management area of the first defect management area, and the fourth defect management area is the next defect management area of the third defect management area, comprising:

a first recording unit configured to record the defect management information on the first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas contained in the current defect management area set in an initial state, and

a second recording unit configured to record the defect management information of the first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas contained in the current defect management area set on the first, second, third, and fourth defect management areas contained in the next defect management area set upon the detection of the defect in the current defect management area set.